

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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SCHEDULE XXXVII - TURKEY

Invocation by Turkey of the Provisions of Article XXVIII:5

The following communication, dated 5 November 1960, has been received from the Turkish delegation:

"On the occasion of the last session of the Council¹, the Turkish delegation informed the CONTRACTING PARTIES that the Turkish Government had undertaken to reform its customs tariff.²

"This tariff reform, which is now in its final stage, was necessary on technical grounds and for reasons of economic policy. Furthermore, the revision is related to the international obligations assumed by Turkey.

"From the technical point of view, the existing tariff suffers from lack of balance and serious structural defects as regards both the level of charges applicable to the various categories of goods and the nomenclature of the schedule of concessions.

"From the economic point of view the existing tariff is not a rational one and does not fulfil the growth requirements of our national economy which is in the process of development.

"By reason of her international obligations, Turkey must, as a signatory to the 1955 Protocol annexed to the Brussels Convention, take adequate steps to adapt her customs tariff to the 1955 Brussels Nomenclature.

"The tariff reform will entail modification of certain concessions negotiated by Turkey under the General Agreement. The Turkish Government has therefore resolved to invoke the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement in order to reserve the right to modify Schedule XXXVII in conformity with the procedures set forth in paragraphs 1-3 of Article XXVIII during the next period of assured validity of the Schedules of concessions which commences on 1 January 1961."

¹See document C/M/1, page 11.

²See documents L/1268, L/1284, L/1284/Corr.1 and L/1284/Add.1.